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LETTER DATED 6 MARCH 1995 FROM THE PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVE OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA TO THE UNITED NATIONS ADDRESSED TO THE PRESIDENT OF THE SECURITY COUNCIL

I have the honour to convey to you the text of the twelfth report of the Multinational Force in Haiti, dated 6 March 1995, submitted to the Security Council in accordance with paragraph 13 of Security Council resolution 940 (1994).

I should be grateful if you would circulate the present letter and its annex as a document of the Security Council.

(Signed) Madeleine K. ALBRIGHT

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Force civil affairs teams with a contract health systems provider. In response to an increase in hijackings and lootings, the civil-military operations centre of the Force is coordinating with representatives from USAID and CARE to provide safe escort to food convoys.

15. Former United States President Carter, former Prime Minister of Belize Price, United States Senator Sam Nunn, and General (retd.) Colin Powell visited Haiti from 23 to 26 February to meet with Haitian officials and observe the progress of reform. The delegation departed after commenting that the country was secure and that plans were well under way for parliamentary and local elections in June.

Annex

Twelfth report of the Multinational Force in Haiti,
6 March 1995

I. INTRODUCTION

1. The Security Council, in its resolution 940 (1994) of 31 July 1994, authorized "Member States to form a multinational force ... and to use all necessary means to facilitate the departure from Haiti of the military leadership, consistent with the Governors Island Agreement, the prompt return of the legitimately elected President and the restoration of the legitimate authorities of the Government of Haiti, and to establish and maintain a secure and stable environment that will permit the implementation of the Governors Island Agreement". The Council further requested States members of the Multinational Force "to report to the Council at regular intervals".

2. This is the twelfth such report, summarizing operations of the Multinational Force in Haiti from 20 February to 5 March 1995 and reporting on the coalition's progress towards achieving the objectives laid out in resolution 940 (1994).

II. SUMMARY OF OPERATIONS

3. As carnival festivities come to a close, Haiti remains secure and stable. Carnival season witnessed crowds of 500,000 to 750,000 gather peacefully in Port-au-Prince and other places across the country. That the carnival crowds were generally peaceful was in part due to a vigorous information campaign directed at maintaining stability during celebrations, as well as a visible presence of the Force throughout the country. While criminal violence did occur during the period covered by the report, the incidence of this was moderate and in some cases the Interim Public Security Force (IPSF) was able to respond to and control the situation.

4. On 3 March, the body of Haitian parliamentarian Eric Lamothe was discovered in a crashed automobile. Lamothe had been shot twice.

5. Working groups composed of United States, United Nations and Government of Haiti officials continued to meet to discuss issues related to the upcoming transition from the Force to the United Nations Mission in Haiti (UNMIH). President Aristide stressed the importance of providing continued security that will permit Haiti to maintain peace and democracy. The Force continues to refine plans and coordinate details for a seamless transition to UNMIH, culminating in a ceremony on 31 March 1995.

6. There are now 7,892 Multinational Force troops in Haiti. There are 665 international police monitors from 16 countries. It is envisioned that the Force will maintain the necessary forces to sustain the mission through the transition day. Therefore, most of the Multinational Force redeployment will occur after 31 March, transition day.

7. The weapons buy-back programme collected over 800 guns and 2,700 munitions. Total weapons seized or bought back to date number 33,000. Vehicle search operations continued to produce few confiscated weapons. From 26 to 28 February, several thousand rounds of ammunition were destroyed by the Multinational Force at the range complex. The destruction of confiscated Haitian unserviceable ammunition is now 75 per cent complete.

8. During the period covered, the Multinational Force conducted out-of-sector missions at Pilate, Le Borgne, Hinche, Plaisance and Mirebalais and in the Artibonite Valley. Special Multinational Force missions included providing aircraft support to the Haitian Election Commission, providing security for the testing of police academy candidates and conducting site surveys of proposed UNMIH base camp locations.

9. The Multinational Force also escorted a pay team which made payments to IPSF personnel in several locations. Legal mentors, in conjunction with the United States Department of Justice's International Criminal Investigative Training Assistance Program (ICITAP) are conducting training of local judges and lawyers in the outlying areas. The international police monitors continued to conduct police patrols throughout Haiti and assist IPSF in responding to citizen complaints and making arrests.

10. Testing for the next police academy class was completed at Gonaives on 20 February and at Cap-Haïtien on 24 February. Three hundred and seventy-five candidates will start the second police academy class on 13 March. The Government of Haiti has agreed in principle that a commission, including representation from the United Nations and ICITAP, will be formed to make recommendations for leadership positions in the national police structure.

11. President Aristide has asked the Multinational Force for assistance in training a 200-man, uniformed presidential palace security force. The Force has agreed to provide a four-week training course.

III. DEVELOPING A SECURE AND STABLE ENVIRONMENT

12. President Aristide signed the election law on 22 February and elections have been set for 4 June. The Multinational Force supplied helicopter support to members of the Provisional Electoral Council to travel to each of the nine departments to establish department electoral boards. All 83 chamber of deputies seats, 18 of 27 senate seats, and approximately 2,200 state and local elections will be contested.

13. Multinational Force engineers executed an operation which included repair of three bridges near Jacmel which were destroyed during tropical storm Gordon. The United Nations is funding the project, the Government of Haiti is providing equipment, and USAID is providing funding to hire local workers.

14. Canadian technicians continue to work with the Port-au-Prince power grid system. Additionally, five tons of material were delivered to the isolated mountain village of Cha Cha to construct a well. A water project that will benefit over 50,000 people at Drouillard is being coordinated by Multinational